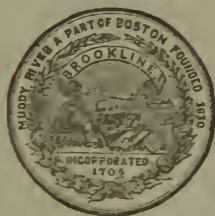


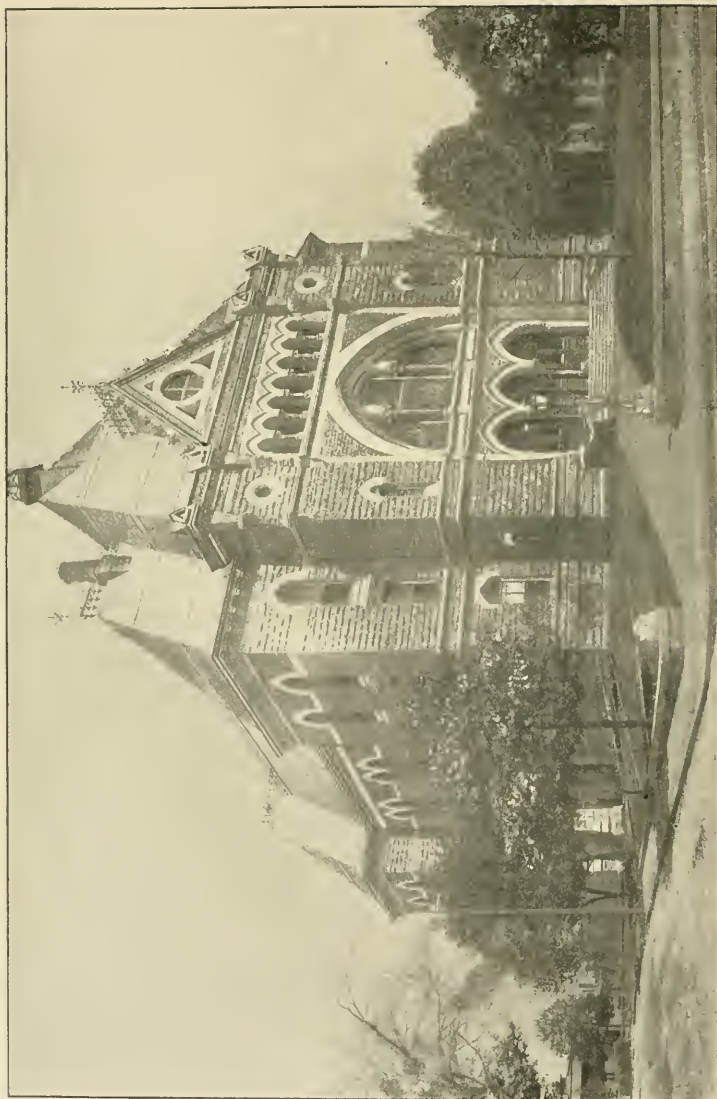
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# A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL HISTORY OF BROOKLINE, MASS.









BROOKLINE TOWN HALL.

# A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL HISTORY OF BROOKLINE, MASS.

PREPARED BY THE HISTORY COMMITTEE  
OF THE BROOKLINE EDUCATION SOCIETY

1897

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"No acquisition made by the school-boy rivals in importance the growing consciousness of his connection with the community life about him, where service is the supreme law of good citizenship. Rightly educated, he recognizes this law and becomes a valuable member of society."

Gift  
American Historical Review

FEB 26 1925

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## PREFACE.

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The following Guide to the Study of Brookline History was originally undertaken by the History Committee of the Education Society in response to a request from the teachers of the third primary grade. As the work developed, however, the attempt to limit its scope to the needs of any particular grade was abandoned, and the resolution formed to make it simply a suggestive outline and bibliography which, on the one hand, might serve as a basis of study for all grades, from the primary to the high school, while on the other hand, it depended for its value chiefly upon the ability of the teacher to expand it and to adapt it to the needs of her particular pupils.

The committee has attempted to furnish (1) a brief but comprehensive outline of facts; (2) suggestive notes upon the elaboration of certain topics, together with various unanswered questions, planned to test the pupil's reasoning powers, or the results of his individual research and observation; (3) as complete a list of references as possible, including not only all accessible articles upon Brookline history, but also some of the more valuable works upon New England life in general.

The Guide will have failed in its purpose, however, if through its terse and dry statement it conveys the idea that the history of Brookline is anything less than the rich, varied, picturesque tale of one of the most interesting of New England towns. The Guide is a bare skeleton. Thorough knowledge, vivid imagination, power of graphic presentation, are indispensable to clothe this skeleton with life.

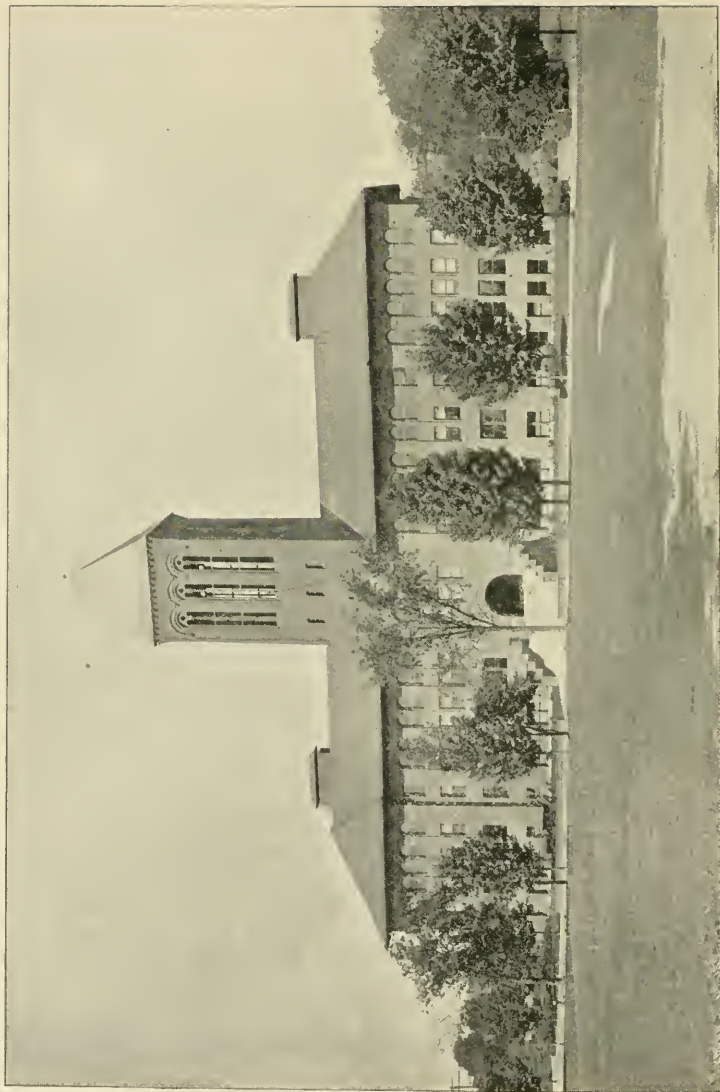
As in the thought of the boy all roads lead from his home outward, so it is hoped that a careful study of local history and local conditions will lead the mind of the pupil out toward the broader history and the more difficult problems of the nation and of the world.

*Brookline, Mass., Jan. 20, 1897.*









BROOKLINE HIGH SCHOOL.

# A GUIDE TO THE STUDY OF BROOKLINE HISTORY.

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## A. Geography.

I. *A detailed study of present and past physical conditions.* Give lessons from the hill-tops; point out particular hills, valleys, streams, ponds, swamps, meadow-lands, woods, bays. (*e. g.* Locate Parker Hill, Jamaica Pond, Muddy River, Smelt Brook, the Longwood peat and clay beds, the Back Bay, the old Mill Dam, etc., etc.) Reproduce the same on the sand table. Call attention to changes of physical features due to grading for new streets, drainage of swamps, erosion of hills (*e. g.* Parker Hill).

II. *Direction lessons.* Direction of Boston, Cambridge, Newton, the Charles River, Boston Harbor, the State House, Bunker Hill, Blue Hills, Dorchester Heights, Lexington, Concord.

III. *Study of political map.* Explanation of map symbols for rivers, hills, streets, etc. Draw outline maps and locate hills, ponds, principal streets, public buildings. Bound the town.

## B. Geology.

(Follow outline prepared for the elementary schools and base instruction upon field lessons.)

- Q. What is the most common rock in Brookline?  
A. Puddingstone.  
Q. Where is it found?  
A. In ledges, or detached masses, or boulders.  
Q. Where can it be studied to the best advantage?  
A. At the Parker Hill quarry, or at any well exposed outcrop;  
*e. g.* back of the Lincoln School.  
Q. What are some of the interesting features to be studied at the ledges?  
A. The stratification, the dip, and the joint cracks.  
Q. Of what is puddingstone made?

Q. Whence came the material of which it is made?

A. From the waste of older rocks.

Q. What agency shaped and assorted the material?

Q. What shows this?

Q. What other rock of similar origin is found in Brookline?

A. Slate.

Crosby's Guide  
p. 134.

Q. How does it differ from puddingstone?

Q. Where is the slate to be seen?

A. In the railroad cuts near Reservoir Station and a short distance beyond the Chestnut Hill Reservoir pumping-house.

Q. Which rock is uppermost in the last mentioned ledge, the slate or the puddingstone?

A. The slate.

Q. Which was deposited first?

Q. Where on a modern beach do we find the coarsest material? The finest?

Q. Which of the two rocks we are considering was deposited in shallow water? In comparatively deep water?

Q. What, then, may we infer from the position of the slate and the puddingstone?

A. That there have been oscillations of the land surface above and below sea level.

Q. What are some of the interesting features of the slate ledge?

A. The shaly structure, the plant-like markings, or dendrite, on the thin plates of the rock, and the ripple marks sometimes found.

Q. What is the puddingstone used for?

A. For building purposes.

Memorial Hist.  
of Boston p. 4.

(NOTE.—The early settlers, who used it for the underpinning of their houses and for their large chimneys, at first broke up the boulders instead of quarrying the rock from the ledges. Why? The new bridges in the Parkway, which are made of selected puddingstone, show the great beauty of the rock. The slate was very commonly used in those days for gravestones.)

Q. What other varieties of rock are found in Brookline?

Judd's  
Volcanoes.

A. Volcanic rocks, and, in the glacial drift, granite and other crystalline rocks brought from a distance by the ice.

Q. Where are the volcanic rocks found?

Crosby's Guide  
pp. 43, 47, 172,  
176, 181, 212.

A. In ledges in the upper part of the town (on Hammond street for example), and in dikes, as in Clyde Park.

Q. How are the volcanic rocks distinguished?

A. By their dark color and crystalline structure. A common variety (melaphyr) is green in color and full of steam-holes, showing that it was a surface sheet of lava. The dike rock (diabase) rapidly weathers and disintegrates.

(NOTE.—Small dikes may be seen at Parker Hill. The largest dike of this immediate vicinity is back of the Country Club House. The glacial drift abounds in fragments of volcanic rock brought by the ice from the Brighton ledges.)

Q. What do the last mentioned rocks tell us of Brookline's remote past?

A. They prove to us that this region was once a place of violent volcanic action.

(Graphic descriptions of Kilauea and Vesuvius will help to make real this interesting period of the town's history.)

Q. What use is made of the volcanic rocks?

A. The most enduring varieties are used for repairing the roads.

Q. What are other interesting geological features of Brookline?

A. The numerous reminders of the great ice age.

(The teacher should give several lessons upon the Ice Age, explaining the glacial theory and exhibiting photographs of existing glaciers.)

Q. Mention some of these.

A. The boulders in the fields, the drumlins and the great blanket of glacial drift, which covers the northern and eastern part of the town.

Q. What are drumlins?

A. Oval-shaped hills of drift material.

Q. Which of the Brookline hills are drumlins?

A. Corey, Aspinwall, Fisher, etc.

Q. How are drumlins formed?

A. No satisfactory explanation has been given.

(For various theories, see Wright's Ice Age.)

Q. Why are they attributed to the glacier?

A. Because of the material of which they are made and because the direction of their longer axes coincides with the direction in which the glacier traveled.

Q. What reveals the course of the glacier?

A. The striations on newly uncovered ledges.

Wright's Ice Age; Bonney's Ice-Work; Tyndall's Forms of Water Crosby's Guide pp. 63, 66.

Q. Where may these be seen?

A. On the ledges at Parker Hill and on the *roches moutonnées* at the base of Babcock Hill.

Q. What is the direction of these scratches?

Q. How did the glacier influence the early history of Brookline?

A. It determined the main routes of travel, for the first roads passed between and around the drumlins, and the place where these roads converged, Village Square, became the site of the present village.

Q. What else may be credited to the glacier?

A. The great natural beauty of the place, to which it owes its pre-eminence as a residential town, is largely due to the irregular distribution of the glacial drift.

(NOTE.—See brief account of geology of Brookline in “The History of a Favored Town”; for more detailed study consult Prof. Crosby’s papers published by Boston Society of Natural History.)

### C. The Settlement of Brookline.

Q. What was the old name of Brookline?

A. Muddy River.

Q. Why was it so called?

A. From the muddy water in the brook flowing through it.

Q. Where is this stream?

A. In the Parkway, on the line between Boston and Brookline.

Q. Who were the earliest-known inhabitants of Muddy River?

A. The Indians.

McMaster, Vol. I., pp. 5-8;  
Weeden, Vol. I., Chap. II.;  
Winsor’s Memorial Hist. of Boston, Chap. VI.

(It is suggested that at this point the teacher give a graphic description of the place before the days of settlement; the wild woodland; the rank, uncut grass of the meadow-lands; the marshes, especially the extent, then, of the Back Bay Fens; the bears and wolves; the rattlesnakes, which were such a pest to Boston; the Indians, their tribal organization, numbers; old fort in Longwood. See History of Norfolk County, pp. 791, 794, 802; Miss Woods’ Sketches, pp. 204-205.)

Q. How did the white settlers of Boston gain possession of the land?

History of Nor. County, p. 793.

A. They bought it from the Indians.

History of Nor. County, p. 801.

Q. When is the earliest mention of Muddy River?

A. In 1632, when Indian sagamores were discovered here.



Q. What use did the Boston settlers at first make of the Muddy River lands?

A. They cut timber from the woods for their houses and ships, and they used the meadows as common pasture-land for their cattle. Miss Woods' History, p. 9; also, p. 11.

(Note the significance of an early name of Brookline, "Boston Commons.")

Q. Why did the Boston people not obtain timber and pasturage in Boston?

Q. When was the first settlement made?

A. In 1633.

Q. Why was it made?

A. That the settlers might look after their cattle, which were pastured here. History of Nor. County, p. 801. Memorial Hist. of Boston, pp. 220-221. History of Nor. County, p. 802. Miss Woods' Sketches, p. 12.

#### D. The Separation of Brookline from Boston.

Q. To what town did Muddy River at first belong?

A. To Boston.

Q. Why?

Q. When and in what particular did the Muddy River people first wish to manage their affairs separately from those of Boston?

A. In 1686, they asked for a school of their own.

Q. Why do you suppose they wished it?

Q. What answer did Boston make?

A. Boston told them that they might choose their own public officers, and that they need not pay taxes to the town government of Boston if they would support a school, keep their roads in repair, and take care of their poor people. History of Nor. County, p. 802.

Q. Who had previously done these things?

A. Boston.

Q. Did the Muddy River people agree?

A. Yes.

Q. Did this arrangement finally satisfy them?

A. No.

Q. Why not?

A. Because, as the village increased in numbers and new public questions arose, they felt it to be both wise and right that they should decide such matters for themselves and not leave them to the decision of the Boston people.

Q. When did Muddy River finally become a separate town?

History of Nor.  
County, p. 805.

A. In 1705.

Q. What new name was given it then?

History of Nor.  
County, p. 805.

A. Brookline.

Q. Why Brookline?

A. Probably from the name of Judge Sewall's farm, "Brookline,"

See Judge

Sewall's Diary so called, doubtless, from Smelt Brook, which bounded it on one  
for June 20, 1687.  
Mr. Bolton's side.  
History.

Three Episodes  
of Mass. Hist.,  
Vol. II., Ch. V.:  
Houses, p. 680;  
Apparel, p. 684;  
Food, p. 685;  
Occup's, p. 687;  
Chap. XIII.,  
p. 800.

Weeden, Vol. I.,  
pp. 213, 283, 222,  
231, 293; Vol.  
II., p. 531.

A. M. Earle,  
Chaps. 4, 10, 13;  
Memorial Hist.  
of Boston,

Chap. XVIII.  
The Sagamore,  
Vol. I. and II.,  
An Old Diary.

McMaster,  
Vol. I., p. 11.  
The Bay Path.

See Alfred D.  
Chandler's  
Brookline: A  
Study in Town  
Government.

(Here the interest would be much increased by simple talks upon  
the life, occupations and amusements of New England colonial days.  
Among occupations in Brookline and Boston, note farming, ship-  
building, tanning, brick-making (a brick-kiln was established in the  
Brookline clay-bed in 1629, one year before the settlement of  
Boston), the old chocolate mill, the saw-mills. See Miss Woods'  
Sketches, pp. 402, etc., etc.)

Q. Has the question of re-uniting Boston and Brookline ever  
arisen?

A. Yes; within the last twenty years, Boston has tried to annex  
Brookline.

Q. How does the feeling of Brookline people now compare with  
that in 1700?

A. They still believe that they can themselves best manage  
their own affairs.

(Some scheme for the federation of Boston and the surrounding  
towns and cities into a municipal district, controlling the sewers,  
parkways, and other common interests, will probably be realized  
in the future. The teacher is referred to the Report of Metro-  
politan District Commission.)



## E. The Old Brookline Buildings.

Q. What stronghold against Indians had the early settlers?

A. The old garrison-house on the corner of Walnut and Chestnut streets. See Miss W's Sketches, p. 204.

(Give a description of this old building, and speak of its importance in case of Indian outbreak. Locate on map.)

Q. Where was the first school-house probably located?

A. On what is now School street.

See description in Miss W's Sketches, p. 84.

Q. Where, near by, was a second one afterward built?

A. Opposite where the Old High School building now is located. See Miss W's Sket., pp. 84-97.

(Locate on map. Give a description of the building; the courses of study; school life then; tell stories in illustration.) See McMaster, p. 21.

Q. Where was the first school-house built by Brookline people, without any help from Boston?

A. At the corner of Walnut and Warren streets, near where the Unitarian Church now stands, about 1690. See Miss W's Sketches, p. 226.

Q. What was taught in this school?

Q. Where did the early inhabitants attend church?

A. In Roxbury.

Q. When was the first meeting-house in Brookline built, and where? Miss Woods' Sketches, p. 239.

A. In 1715, on Walnut street. (Formerly Old Road or old Sherburne Road.) History of Nor. County, p. 807.

(Locate on map. A description might be here given of Puritan church-going, and something said of the political importance of the meeting-house. This should be followed by a full description of the Brookline meeting-house. Where did the children sit? How did the minister tell the time? Tell the story of the dog in church.) Weeden, Chap. III., p. 72.

Q. What was the Punch-Bowl tavern?

A. The inn at which travelers through Brookline stopped in the early days. Miss Woods' Sketches, p. 239.  
Dr. Pierce's Discourse, 1805, p. 30.  
Essay on Dr. Pierce's Address on the Death of Washington, by Rusticus. (High School Collec.)

Q. When was it built?

A. Probably about 1700.

Q. In what curious manner was it enlarged?

A. By joining to the old building, others brought from Boston and elsewhere. See Miss W's Sketches, p. 18.

See The Chronicle, July 30, 1892, Muddy River Improvement.

Q. Where did it stand?

A. Near where the Lyceum building now stands.

(Locate. A description of the old Punch-Bowl should be given, with some account of its importance as a political and social center.)

Q. Where were town meetings held in these days?

See notes to Brookline in the Revolution, p. 34, His. Pub. Society.

A. At the meeting-house, or the school-house, or the Punch-Bowl tavern, or sometimes at private houses. (See I.)

See C. F. Adams, Vol. II., Chap. V. Weeden, Vol. I., pp. 213, 253. Memorial Hist., Vol. I., Chap. XVIII. A. M. Earle, Chap. IV.

(The teacher might give now a description of New England colonial houses, both of the handsomer sort and of the farm-houses.)

Q. What other old taverns are famous?

A. Erosamon Drew's Huckleberry tavern, built before 1670, (see description,) and Richards' tavern.

(Locate these.)

Whitefield's Homes of Our Forefathers.

Q. What private house, built in the 17th century, stood until a few years ago?

A. The old Aspinwall house, built in 1660, on Aspinwall avenue. (Locate.)

Miss Wood's Sketches, pp. 388-390, and 189. Memorial Hist. of Boston, Vol. I., p. 221.

Q. What are some of the other historic houses of Brookline?

Miss Woods' Sketches, pp. 78 and 152.

A. The Crafts house, built in 1709; the Downer house (Miss Woods' Sketches, p. 28), built before the Revolution; the Goddard house, built in 1730 (*ibid*, p. 363); the Goddard house, 1761 (*ibid*, p. 372); the Hyslop house (*ibid*, p. 296); and the Clark house, built about 1715 (*ibid*, p. 217); Devotion house, built before 1675 (*ibid*, p. 113).

History of Nor. County, p. 860. (Illustration.)

(Locate these on map. The teacher will find in Miss Woods' Sketches many interesting anecdotes connected with these old houses, which will serve to fix them in the pupils' memories.)

Q. Which of these houses are still standing?

(If the children can be taken to see some of these old houses, the interest will be heightened. Such expeditions are strongly urged, both for the above reason and that interest may be aroused for preserving historic buildings.)

Q. What are the most important modern buildings in Brookline?

## F. The History of Transportation, Routes of Travel.

Q. What is the route of the famous old Indian trail through Brookline?

A. It ran from Roxbury to Newton, along the lines of Walnut and Heath streets, Pound and Reservoir lanes. Miss Woods' Sketches, p. 308.

(This should be traced upon an outline map.)

Q. What especial interest centers about Reservoir lane?

A. An old Indian village and burial-place were situated here.

Q. What traces of these remain?

A. Indian relics are often found in the soil thereabouts.

Q. What anecdote shows the interest felt by the Indians for this spot?

A. In later days, long after all the Indians had moved away from Brookline to the west, they used to return to visit here the graves of their relatives.

Q. What famous man used in the old days to pass along this trail?

A. John Eliot.

(The teacher might tell the story of Eliot's life and work; a walk through Reservoir lane, which is especially beautiful, would be interesting.)

Q. When is a road from Boston to Muddy River first mentioned?

A. In 1640, when the people of Boston built a bridge across Muddy River.

Q. What was the route of this road?

A. Nearly that of the line now followed by the street-cars to Roxbury Crossing, thence over Norfolk House Hill, and along Boston Neck into what is now Washington street. See The Sagamore, Vol. II., Sketch of Brookline Hist. also map in Mr. Bolton's Hist.

(Locate on outline map.)

Q. How long did this continue to be the only road to Boston?

A. Until the building of the mill-dam in 1821.

Q. What two other roads were cut later?

A. The Sherburne road, along the old Indian trail leading to Newton, and the Cambridge road (along Harvard street) stretching up into New Hampshire. See The Chronicle, Aug. 20, 1892, Muddy River Improvement. See The Chronicle, Aug. 20, 1892, Roads in Brookline. Mr. Bolton's map.

Q. Of what advantage was Brookline's situation to her in the early days?

A. Brookline lay on the direct road between Boston and the important towns west of Boston, and all the trade between those places passed through Brookline.

Q. What effect had this upon the growth of Brookline?

Miss Woods' Sketches, p. 18.

A. Travelers regularly stopped at the Brookline tavern—the "Punch-Bowl"—for refreshment, and this tavern augmented the growth of the hamlet and caused it to be called the Punch-Bowl Village.

Q. In what part of Brookline was this village?

A. Near what is now Village Square.

Q. Why was the garrison-house built so far from the village?

Q. What determined the situation of the first church?

Miss Woods' Sketches, p. 21.

Q. What coach routes passed through Brookline?

A. The New York mail-stage route and the Uxbridge.

Alice Morse Earle's Customs and Fashions in Old New Eng., Chap. VIII. McMaster, Vol. I., p. 43. Mme. Knight's Journey to New York in 1704. Living Age, June 26, 1858.

(A description of journeys by coach a century ago might here be given, especially a description of the old coach road from Boston to New York, with an account of the length, inconvenience and danger of the journey. A comparison with the trip as made at present would be interesting.)

Q. What was the first public conveyance between Brookline and Boston?

See Miss W's Sketches, p. 21.

A. Mr. Spurr's coach in 1816.

Q. How often was the trip made?

A. Twice a day.

Q. Why did this enterprise fail?

A. Because Brookline people—even women—preferred to walk to Boston rather than pay twenty-five cents each way for the ride.

Q. What important turnpike was laid out in the early part of this century?

See Letter of Rebecca Boylston. Miss Woods' Sketches, p. 189. Mr. Bolton's map.

A. The Worcester turnpike, which ran through Brookline.

Q. How does the use made of these roads now differ from that of a century ago?

Q. Why?

Q. When was the railroad to Brookline opened?

A. On April 10, 1848.

(Give as vivid a description of the opening of this road as possible, and explain the importance of steam transportation.)

See Alfred D. Chandler's Study in Town Government, pp. 791-794.

Q. When was the Beacon street electric line constructed?

A. At the time of the widening of Beacon street in 1886-87.

Q. What two parks, or driveways, have been made by Brookline in recent times?

A. The Beacon-street Parkway and the Riverdale Park, the latter made in conjunction with Boston.

(The teacher should say something of the importance to Brookline of such driveways, and of the far-sightedness and public spirit which caused them to be made.)

### G. Slavery in Brookline.

(A simple introductory talk upon slavery in New England, contrasting the conditions of northern and southern slave-life, and stating the economic reasons therefor, would be interesting.)

Q. Were slaves kept in Brookline?

A. Yes.

Q. How were they employed?

A. As household servants, for the most part.

Q. What Brookline man was well known as an abolitionist?

A. Mr. Samuel Philbrick was prominent in the anti-slavery cause about 1836.

(A sketch of Mr. Philbrick's life-work would be interesting. Note the treatment he received from his fellow townsmen. Stories and anecdotes of slaves held in Brookline should be told here, especially of Sambo (see Miss Woods' Sketches, pp. 43-45), and Mr. Heath's slaves (*ibid.*, p. 320). An original deed of sale of a slave in 1752 may be seen at the library.)

Weeden's Economic & Social History, Vol. II., Chap. XII. A. M. Earle's Customs and Manners, Chap. III.

See Miss W's Sketches, pp. 269 and 274.

### H. Brookline in the Wars.

#### BROOKLINE IN THE REVOLUTION.

Q. What is the first record of dissatisfaction in Brookline with the English government of the colonies?

A. When, in 1768, Brookline sent a delegate to a convention in Faneuil Hall to discuss the grievances of the Province.

Q. What was her next step?

A. In 1772, she in town meeting appointed a "Committee of Correspondence" with Boston and other towns.

(Explain the term.)

Q. What did Brookline do when the tax was laid on tea?

A. Forbade the importation of tea.

See Brookline in the Revolution, by Margaret May, Br. His. Pub. Soc.

History of Nor. County.



Q. When did Brookline first commence military preparations?

A. In September, 1774.

(This section pre-supposes a general knowledge of the war. Frequent talks on the situation in Boston, the bitterness of feeling among the colonists, the danger incurred by Brookline citizens in their attitude of open opposition, their defenceless situation, etc., will make the record more vivid.)

Q. What Brookline names are famous in connection with the Revolution?

A. John Goddard, Isaac Gardner, Col. Thomas Aspinwall, Dr. Aspinwall, Dr. Downer, Lieut.-Col. Wesson.

Q. What do we know of Isaac Gardner?

First Harvard graduate killed in the Revolution.

A. At the head of a small command, he met the British during their retreat from Lexington and was killed; he was thus the first Brookline hero and martyr of the war.

N. E. Mag.,  
March, 1895.

(A description of Isaac Gardner and his work would be appropriate here.)

Q. How was John Goddard connected with the war?

Miss Woods' Sketches, pp. 364-367.

A. He was conductor of stores for the American army, and later wagon-master-general.

Brookline in the Revolution, pp. 17 and 24.

(Tell the story of the stores which Mr. Goddard carried to Concord, and the one of the fortification of Dorchester Heights.)

Q. Why is Col. Thomas Aspinwall noted?

A. Because of the forces he commanded on April 19, 1775.

Brookline in the Revolution, pp. 27, 28, 33.

Q. What can you say of Col. Wesson?

A. He was the highest officer in command sent by Brookline to the war.

Brookline in the Revolution, pp. 20, 21, 25, 26. History of Nor. County, p. 891.

Q. What positions were held by Dr. Aspinwall and Dr. Downer?

A. They were both army surgeons.

Q. Name some of the prominent Tories in Brookline.

A. Henry Hulton, counsellor for the British government; a Mr. Jackson, who lived where the library now stands; and Samuel Sewall, who owned land in Brookline.

Q. What treatment did they receive from their neighbors?

A. Mr. Jackson found life in Brookline so unpleasant that he sold his house and left town; Mr. Sewall fled to England, and his property was confiscated by the government; the windows of Mr. Hulton's house were broken by Brookline boys, and he finally left town also.

Q. What connection had Brookline with the battle of Lexington?

A. Lord Percy, at the head of one thousand men, marched through Brookline on his way to Lexington; also, Brookline responded with three companies to the Lexington alarm.

See Brookline  
in the Revolution,  
pp. 18-22.

(Outline these marches on map. A detailed description of Brookline's experiences on April 19th would be interesting.)

Q. What outpost of defence had Brookline?

A. Brookline Fort at Sewall's Point on the Charles.

Q. Was this fort ever attacked?

A. It was once fired upon by a British floating battery, but repelled the attack.

Early Notices  
of Local  
Events,  
His. Pub. Soc.

Q. When did Brookline first declare for independence from England?

A. On May 20, 1776, a month and a half before the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Q. Did Brookline take any other part in the war?

A. She sent a large number of soldiers in the different years.

#### BROOKLINE IN THE CIVIL WAR.

Q. What effect upon Brookline was produced by the news of the attack on Fort Sumter?

See Katherine  
R. Briggs'  
Brookline in the  
Civil War, His.  
Pub. Society.

Q. What war measures were immediately undertaken by the town?

A. A military commission was appointed to take charge of war preparations; military companies were organized; taxes levied to start a town fund; two private subscription lists were opened, and relief work undertaken by the women.

Letter from  
Brig.-Gen. E.  
A. Wild, His.  
Pub. Society.

Q. Who was the first man from Brookline to enlist?

A. William D. Goddard.

Miss Woods'  
Sketches, pp.  
407-423.

Q. What Brookline man was influential in organizing the Second Massachusetts Regiment.

A. Wilder Dwight.

The Life and  
Letters of Wil-  
der Dwight.

Q. What commission did he receive?

A. That of major.

Q. Who was captain of the first Brookline company?

A. Edward A. Wild.

Memoir of Gen.  
E. A. Wild.  
Kennard's Ad-  
dress on Wild.

Q. Where did this company drill?

A. In the Guild Block, corner of Boylston and Washington streets.

Q. Where out-of-doors were the Brookline companies generally drilled?

A. On the open ground near the Police Station.

Q. What boys' company was formed?

A. "The Rifles," who gave exhibition drills all over the state.

Q. What addition to the school course was made at this time?

A. Military drill was introduced.

Q. Who was the first Brookline man to fall in the war?

A. Herbert S. Barlow.

Q. How many men were furnished by Brookline?

A. Seven hundred and twenty men, thirty-four commissioned officers.

Q. How many more than the number required of her?

A. One hundred and thirty-five.

Q. How many Brookline men were killed in the war?

A. Seventy-two.

Q. Who was the most prominent Brookline man in the war?

A. Brigadier-General Edward A. Wild.

Notes to  
Brookline in  
the Civil War,  
p. 51.

History of Nor.  
County, p. 876.

Brookline in  
the Civil War,  
pp. 18, 20, 30.

(The teacher will find sketches of the prominent Brookline men in the notes at the end of Miss Briggs's essay. It is suggested that descriptions be given of the work done by the women of Brookline; of the preparation of supplies upon receipt of the news of the Union defeat at the second battle of Bull Run, and of the rejoicing at the close of the war.)

## I. Government.

Q. In what state is Brookline? In what county?

(Note the peculiar form of the county. Give the reason.)

Q. In what senatorial district is Brookline? In what congressional district? In what councillor district?

Q. Who is the present Congressman? The State Senator? The Representative to the General Court?

Q. What form of government has Brookline?

A. A town government.

Q. What is a town?

Martin, p. 203.

A. A town is (1) a collection of people (2) who occupy a definite portion of territory and (3) directly govern themselves, so far as the state allows them to do so.



Q. What name is given to the laws which a town makes?

A. By-laws.

(Explain the origin of the term. Fiske, p. 31.)

Q. How are these laws made?

A. By the citizens of the town, assembled in town meeting.

Q. Where are Brookline town meetings held?

Q. Where were they held in early days?

Brookline in  
the Revolution,  
p. 34.  
Fiske, p. 19.

(See E.)

Q. When was the first Brookline town meeting held, and for what purpose?

Q. How often are town meetings held?

A. At least once a year.

Q. How many did Brookline hold last year?

Q. How does this number compare with the record a century ago?

Martin, p. 204.

Chandler, p. 787

Q. Does any business come before town meetings besides the making of by-laws?

A. (1) Town officers are elected; (2) the amount of money to be spent by the town is decided upon; (3) general town affairs are discussed.

(Teachers might with profit take pupils to town meetings and let them observe the proceedings.)

Q. What town officers are elected in Brookline?

Q. By what system are they elected?

Q. For how long a term is each elected?

Q. Who are the most important town officers?

A. The five Selectmen.

Q. Why?

A. Because they have the general management of town affairs.

Q. What duty have they in connection with town meetings?

A. They call the meetings by means of a warrant.

Q. What is a warrant?

A. A document instructing one of the constables to call together the voters of the town and stating the business for which the meeting is called.

Q. What steps does a citizen take to have any particular item of business introduced into the warrant?

Brookline  
Town Report.

Martin, p. 205.

Martin, p. 204.

Q. How does the constable notify the voters?

(The pupils should be encouraged to bring to class, specimens of warrants, ballots, etc.)

Q. What is the duty of the town clerk?

Q. What does the treasurer do?

Q. What is the duty of the constables? Assessors? Other officers named above?

Q. Who fill these positions in Brookline at present?

Town Report.

Q. Has Brookline more or fewer officers than the average town?

Fiske, pp. 20-24

Q. What does this indicate?

Q. Name some Brookline town officers who are appointed instead of elected.

Q. Why appointed?

(The teacher might well at this point draw some comparison between the town government and the state and national governments. Point out in each case the three departments of government, *i. e.* legislative, executive, judicial. Show why some officers are appointed and others elected. Say something of the educational value of the town meeting and of town office holding.)

Q. Which of the town officers receive salaries? Why?

Q. What compensation have the others?

Town Report.

Q. For what objects does the town spend money?

(This point should be discussed and important public works noted. The chief improvements made during the last ten years should be especially pointed out. Also note that Brookline was the first town in the country to establish by town appropriation a public library and an "all-the-year-round municipal bath-house.")

Chandler.

Q. Mention three objects for which more than \$50,000 was appropriated by Brookline last year.

Q. What was the total sum spent by the town last year?

Q. Where does the town obtain the money spent in this way?

Q. What is the present rate of taxation?

Town Report,  
p. 166.

Q. What was it a year ago? Five years ago? Ten? Twenty?

Chandler, p. 794

Q. Is it becoming higher or lower?

Q. How do the expenses of Brookline now compare with those of ten years ago? Twenty years ago? Forty years ago?

Q. What conclusion do you draw from these facts?



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(Here let a general comparison be made with Brookline, one hundred and two hundred years ago, showing the increase in expenditures and in general wealth and comfort. Make any other comparisons that will help to give color and meaning to these figures. How does the wealth of Brookline compare with that of other towns in the United States? How do its receipts and expenditures compare with those of the state of New Hampshire? How does its state tax compare with that of other Massachusetts towns? See Alfred D. Chandler's article, p. 779. Is Brookline's wealth of benefit to the town as a whole, or only to individuals?)

Q. What share of the county expenses is borne by Brookline? Town Report.

A. One-third or more.

Q. What is the amount of the town's debt?

Q. Why does the town borrow money?

Q. Is there any limit to the amount that the town may borrow?

Q. What does it mean to bond the town?

Q. For how long a time may these bonds run?

Q. How large a population must a town have in order to become a city?

A. 12,000.

Q. Has Brookline a large enough population to form a city?

Q. From whom does a town receive authority to become a city?

A. From the State Legislature.

Martin, p. 214.

Q. What is the chief difference between a town and a city government?

A. In a town the legislative power rests with the whole body of voters assembled in town meeting; in a city it rests with the City Council, which merely represents the citizens at large.

(The distinction between a collective assembly and a representative assembly should be clearly brought out.) Fiske, p. 99.

Q. How are the members of the city council chosen?

A. They are elected by the citizens.

Q. What reasons are there for changing from a town to a city form of government?

A. The number of voters and the fact that there is so much business to be done, that the average voter has neither the necessary time nor knowledge to attend to it.

Q. What disadvantages are connected with the city form of government?

Q. What problem is Brookline trying to solve?

A. She is managing the affairs of a city community by means of a town government.

Q. What is enabling her to succeed?

A. (1) The high average intelligence of Brookline citizens.

(2) Their interest and pride in the town;

(3) Their willingness to devote time and money to the welfare of the town.

(The importance of these elements in the success of the town should be dwelt upon at length.)

(4) The wisdom with which work has been divided up among different officers and committees.

(Explain the function of the "Committee of Twenty.")

(5) The completeness of the town report.

(The unique character of this report, and the interest felt in it by students of political science throughout the country, should be explained.)

(6) The thorough-going methods adopted to acquaint citizens with the business of prospective town meetings.

(Note the general circulation of copies of the warrants, the printed notes upon the business mentioned in the warrants, etc.)

(7) Non-partisanship in town elections.

(The importance of this consideration cannot be too strongly emphasized. Integrity, business ability, experience, not party affiliation, are the qualifications for office. Discuss at this point the general subject of civil service reform.)

Q. What advantages is Brookline gaining from this course?

Q. What dangers menace the town government?

A. (1) Ignorance on the part of new-comers, with regard to the town policy and traditions.

(2) The possible indifference of citizens.

(3) Consequent neglect of town meetings.

(4) The introduction of "machine politics."

Q. What is at present the voting population of the town?

Q. What was the average attendance at the town meetings last year?

Chandler.



## SPECIAL TOPICS.

Below are given a few subjects for special investigation. This list may be indefinitely extended by the teacher.

- a. Names and History of Prominent Brookline Citizens, *e. g.* Dr. Boylston, Dr. Pierce, Edward Devotion, etc.
- b. Histories of Brookline Families still Occupying the Ancestral Estates.
- c. Origin and Significance of Town Names, *i. e.* of Streets, Districts, Schools, etc.
- d. Unique Features of the Brookline Town Government.
- e. Poor Relief in Brookline.
- f. A Study of Highways; their Laws, History, etc.
- g. The School System of Brookline.
- h. The Financial Management of the Town of Brookline.
- i. Changes in the Physical Features of Brookline.
- j. The Brookline Town Meeting.
- k. The Police Department, etc., etc.

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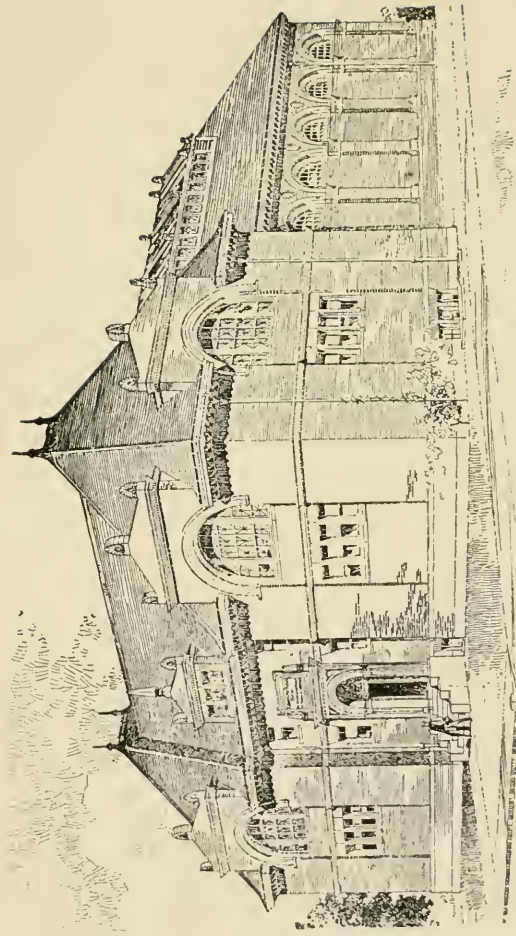
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